

ment of government here and not try to force our policies on the people by way of our position down here as delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment? If not, Delegate Gallagher, will you take the floor to yield to a question?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Willoner.

DELEGATE WILLONER: From your statement, Delegate Gallagher, you indicated it would be virtually impossible to have presidential primaries because of the redistricting problems. Did I understand that?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: In the years in which the presidential election occurred when redistricting must take place, the first occasion being 1990, it would be very difficult to get the redistricting done in time to have an effective primary because you have to know what the districts are going to be before you can hold the primary. Assumedly you would want to have the candidate for Senate and House running at the same time this presidential primary was going on or at least in which you were electing your delegates to the National Convention, if that is the way you wanted to handle it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Willoner.

DELEGATE WILLONER: Would 1990 be the first time this could occur?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: That is correct.

THE CHAIRMAN: Very Well. Delegate Marion.

DELEGATE MARION: Could I ask Delegate Gallagher another question?

THE CHAIRMAN: Will Delegate Gallagher yield to another question?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Marion.

DELEGATE MARION: I do not follow this because we do not elect a president in 1990, do we? We elect a president in 1988 and 1992.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: '68, '72, '76, '80. It would be 1980 and 2000.

THE CHAIRMAN: A further question, Delegate Marion?

DELEGATE MARION: In those years we are not electing a General Assembly though.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: In those years it would be 1972 and 1980, I think, as required under the constitutional provision. We would be redistricting in those years.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Weidemeyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Mr. President and members of the Committee, I do want to say this. Delegate Schneider seemed to indicate that this amendment did not do what I wanted it to do. I do submit that the wording of this amendment, if Delegate Schneider will read it again, clearly provides for the holding of a national party convention and providing sufficient time for the holding of state party conventions. It is to have it so that the state conventions, primary elections, can be held prior to a state convention and that state convention can be held subsequent to the primary prior to the national.

I think it is very clear. I think it is unfortunate as Delegate Gallagher pointed out, very unfortunate for the people in both parties, if we have to wait until 1980 or 1990 because of some possible conflict way off that we be deprived all that time of expressing our views for president. I think delegates from Maryland should express the will of the people. In addition to that, if candidates for United States Senator and Congress are nominated in an early primary in presidential years, those candidates will have an opportunity to go then to the state convention as nominated candidates and get the feel of their party pulse. They will have an opportunity to go to the national convention and there get the feel of their party movement.

I think it is a healthy political thing for both parties to conduct our primary election at an early time in presidential years and keep it on a sound democratic basis.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

The question arises on the adoption of Amendment No. 22. The Clerk will ring the quorum bell.

The question arises on the adoption of Amendment No. 22. A vote Aye is a vote